

Vol. I No. I



July 1, 1901

K.C.S. Ry.

Current Events

Along the Line of the

Kansas City Southern Ry.

"Straight as the Crow Flies"

KANSAS CITY TO THE GULF.

ISSUED BY THE

General Passenger Department



AN AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL
MAGAZINE

Kansas City



Missouri

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K. C. S.

Kansas City Southern Railway

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Gulf.

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THE GODDESS OF LIGHT.

Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, N. Y.

CURRENT EVENTS

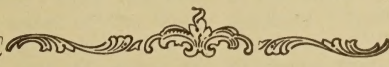
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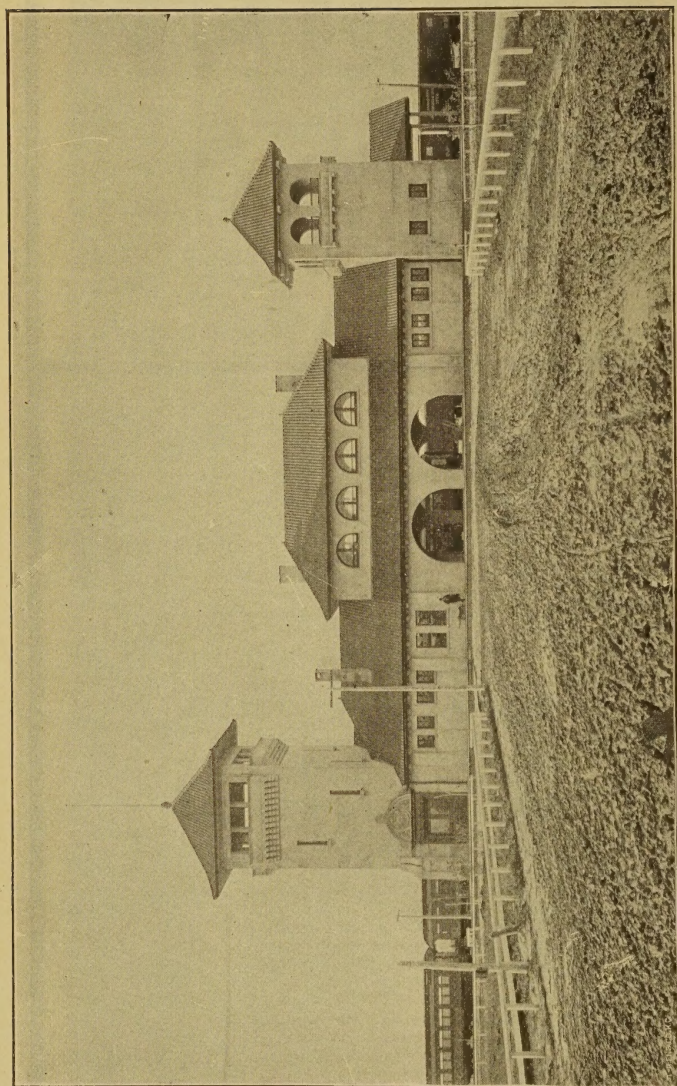
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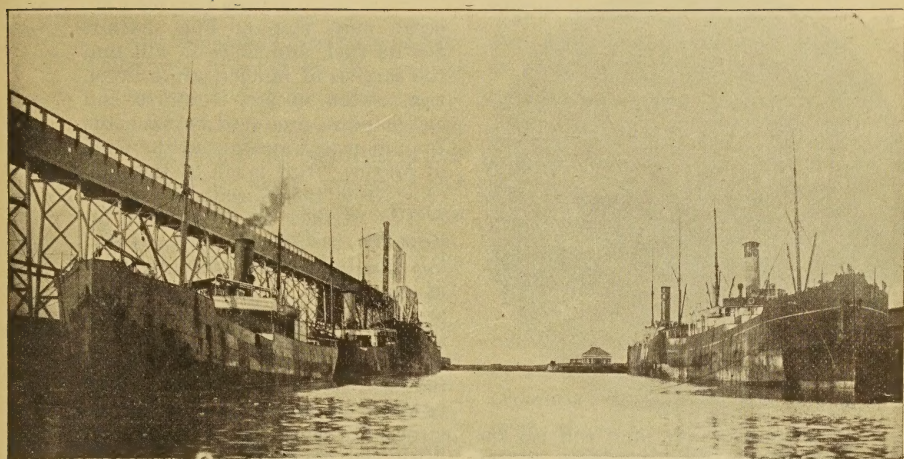
SALUTATORY

"Current Events" makes its bow to the reading and traveling public with the announcement that hereafter it will put in its appearance regularly as a railroad magazine. While there are some people in the world who might question the absolute necessity of its existence, it offers in extenuation the plea that its publishers, the Kansas City Southern Railway Company have a good railroad, 800 miles more or less long, running through a fine country of which too little is known. Its aim in life will be to bring the resources of the country to the notice of those who are on the lookout for something good. It proposes to be a readable magazine, giving accurate information to all who will hear concerning the agricultural, mineral and industrial resources lying between Kansas City and the Gulf coast. Its ambition is to point out to those seeking new opportunities the locations where such opportunities may be found. It will endeavor to make itself useful to intending new settlers such as farmers, stockraisers, fruitgrowers, truckgardeners, manufacturers, merchants, and others seeking a new scope of action, by furnishing reliable information on all subjects of interest to them.





RAILWAY PASSENGER STATION, PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS.
Kansas City Southern Railway.



PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS.

In this year nineteen hundred and one, the first year of the twentieth century, there is no five-year-old town in the world which has more brilliant prospects before it than Port Arthur, Tex. No other town was ever blessed with so many advantages, or is likely to be for a century to come.

Port Arthur is a seaport unsurpassed for safety any where in the world, and can be easily enlarged for business purposes as occasion may require. Its shipping facilities have been arranged on a very extensive scale, embracing many miles of railway sidings, a grain elevator of 500,000 bushels capacity, eight slips for the landing of ships, lumber wharves capable of handling 10,000,000 feet of lumber and immense general warehouses for the temporary storage of the vast stores of grain, cotton and merchandise that come from the plains of Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, and the hills of Missouri and Arkansas. The great canal connecting Port Arthur with the deep water of the Gulf of Mexico will admit ships drawing twenty-five feet of water to

the wharves at Port Arthur, at all times of the year and provide them with the safest anchorage in the world. The products of the country can be loaded direct from the railroad trains into the ships, and lighters are unnecessary for discharging cargoes. Port Arthur is the terminus of the shortest and most direct railroad from the granary of the nation, and the greatest meat producing region in the world to tidewater, the Kansas City Southern railway. Lumber, wool, cotton, rice and sugar are produced in great quantity on its line and have their outlet to the sea by way of Port Arthur.

The shipping facilities and favorable railway connections are not, however, the only advantages this infant seaport possesses. Beyond all these are the wealth in fuel, iron and cotton, in the midst of which Port Arthur is located. Underneath the town and in close proximity, in incalculable quantity, is the cheapest and best fuel in the world—fuel oil in boundless quantity. Surrounding this port at various distances are hundreds of towns that need oil for heat,



light and power; and will use the cheaper oil in preference to the bulkier and costlier coal. When the Nicaragua canal is completed the town will be in the hey-day of its prosperity, for every ship going to or coming from the Pacific

ocean must stop at Port Arthur for its fuel, and there it will find the cargoes of lumber, grain, wool, rice, cotton, meats, ironware and merchandise produced between the Dominion of Canada and the Gulf of Mexico. But much of this will come from the immediate vicinity of Port Arthur, surrounded on all sides by rice fields, sugar and cotton plantations and its hundreds of sawmills. Within easy reach are vast beds of iron ore, to which the fuel oil will be conducted, and an iron industry be established that will seek its equal and will be followed by the installation of immense ship-yards at Port Arthur. With the cheapest fuel at hand, what will prevent the installation of cotton factories, sugar-mills and industrial establishments of all kinds? What more can an ambitious young seaport want?



SILOAM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS.

About once a year it becomes the duty of the average good citizen of the United States to be overcome with "that tired feeling," which, translated into plain English, means "the rush of business is over for a few weeks, at least; the weather is hot and getting hotter. Let us clear out and go somewhere and take it easy. It won't cost much more to go than to stay at home."

There are a thousand places people can go to and enjoy themselves and Siloam Springs, Arkansas, is one of them. It is south of Kansas City 229 miles, in a fairly mountainous region, and offers to the health and pleasure seeker many attractions. The principal features, which have given the

place an enviable reputation for many years, are the numerous springs of curative waters which abound in the town and the immediate neighborhood. Most persons coming to Siloam Springs on the score of health have been greatly benefitted, and many have been permanently cured. The three most important springs are Twin springs, Siloam and Seven springs, though there are over twenty living springs within the incorporated limits of the town. In the immediate surrounding country are several other springs of local repute, the most attractive of them being "Dripping Springs," some nine miles from town. This spring gushes forth from a cliff some 90 feet high in small streamlets,

which at the base of the rock form a pool and stream.

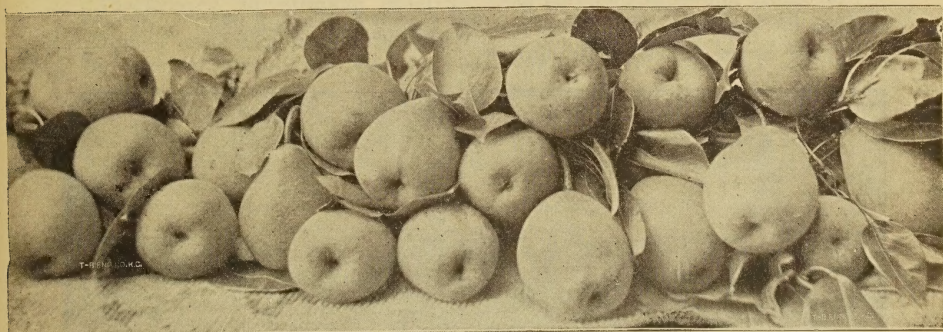
The diseases that seem to be beneficially affected by the use of these waters and for which numerous permanent cures are claimed and certified to by hundreds of testimonials are acute, muscular and inflammatory rheumatism; diseases of the stomach, such as dyspepsia, gastric catarrh, etc. diseases of the intestines, chronic catarrh, constipation, etc.; liver complaints, jaundice and malaria; tuberculosis and incipient consumption; chronic skin diseases of all kinds, sciatica and nervous prostration; neuralgia, paralysis, dysentery, chronic diarrhoea, asthma and hay fever.

The geographical location of Siloam Springs and its altitude, 1,163 feet, insure for the resort very pleasant climatic conditions. The winter seasons are mild; snow is a rare occurrence, so that one wishing to avoid severe climates will find this an excellent locality to pass a few pleasant weeks in breathing the pure mountain air and enjoying the balmy, spring-like weather. The summer days

are moderately warm, but the nights are generally deliciously cool and a blanket to sleep under is essential for comfort, even in midsummer.

To those fond of outdoor sports, such as hunting, it need only be said that there is lots of game in the vicinity, and that perch, trout, black bass and other fishes can be caught with a hook.

Aside from the curative properties of the waters, the place offers so many other attractions as to make it a very desirable resort. The town of Siloam Springs has between 3,500 and 4,000 inhabitants, several very good hotels, a college, a public school system of a high order, the usual complement of stores, banks, churches, mills and other incidentals to a town of its size, as well as paved streets, electric light service, public water works, etc. Fine fruits are grown extensively in the surrounding country and the raising of fine poultry and the export of chickens and eggs is a business of great magnitude in and about Siloam Springs.



KEIFFER PEARS FROM THE GULF COAST

THE APPLE ORCHARD IN THE OZARKS.

Fruit culture is not only a matter of soil, but likewise of climatic and other conditions. The essential conditions for successful apple culture appear to be a well drained soil containing considerable lime and iron. While the apple requires a rainfall of 30 to 40 inches per annum, it nevertheless abhors wet feet. The tree and the fruit should be free from deleterious fungus growths, and this is possible only when there is no excessive humidity. The dryness of the atmosphere incident to an altitude of 1,500 to 2,000 feet in the latitude of Cairo, Ill., and the moderately cool temperature incident to the same altitude appear particularly favorable to the production of firm, juicy, well-colored and well-flavored fruits, provided the soil contains the essentials necessary for their growth.

In the Ozark region, where traversed by the Kansas City Southern railway, the country has been found to be admirably adapted to the cultivation of this fruit. It is produced commercially in very large quantity and is favorably known in the fruit markets of the world. The apples produced in the Ozark region appear

in every respect to have met the demands of the market, and are considered perfect in size, color form and flavor.

The commercial production of fruits has reached great proportions, some of the largest plantations being those of Ozark Orchard Company's orchards at Goodman, Lanagan and Gentry, comprising 1,530 acres, on which have been planted 86,900 apple and 23,000 peach trees. In addition to these there are extensive peach, pear and plum orchards in other places. The Olden fruit farm in Howell county covers nearly 3,000 acres and hundreds of smaller orchards are scattered throughout the region. The growing of fruit in connection with the ordinary farming operations has been found very profitable in the counties of Barton, Jasper, McDonald and Vernon in Missouri, and in Benton, Washington, Crawford, Sebastian, Scott, Polk and Sevier counties in Arkansas, in which a rapid growth of the business is taking place. Lands are very cheap in most of these counties, and in some there is still a large quantity of government land open for settlement.



THE STORY OF SENOR ALMANRADO'S COW.

F. E. ROESLER.



"Lord, what a cow!"

The valley of the Rio Grande has been occupied by peace-loving agricultural communities for half a millennium. Its people have served under many masters and it finally came to pass that the Americans became responsible for their weal and woe. The first American army chaplain who encountered them, looked them over and remarked to the colonel:

"The Lord made them, and he may love them, but He certainly can't admire them."

For the protection of the newly acquired citizens, the American

government established military garrisons in the new territory, and in the course of time soldiers were discharged and others were enlisted. Being many hundreds of miles away from their old homes, many of these soldiers preferred to settle in the valley. They bought lands there, married and they and their children now constitute the progressive element in the population.

In a town, not a thousand miles from El Paso, a soldier had acquired some property and also a farm nearby. Boarding with a native family, he was overcome with a deadly dislike for blue tortillas and the ever present chili-con-carne, enchiladas, tamales—calientes, chili-verde, etc., etc., and finally swore by all the saints in the Spanish calendar, and they are numerous, that he would not marry a native tortilla maker if he lived a thousand years; and yet a wife he must have, or dine on tortillas the remainder of his days.

One fine day Senor Schmitt started off with a large party, bound for San Antonio, Texas. Six months later he reappeared with a buxom German girl and a Jersey cow. He soon had his household in running order and apparently was happy as a king. Next to his wife, he loved his Jersey cow and he never failed to give her favorable mention when opportunity presented itself. His friend and neighbor, Tequila Almandrado, had heard much of that wonderful cow. He, however, cared little for milk as long as the Mission grape crop was good and he had three or four barrels of six-year-old wine in his store house.

Christmas came along as it does every year and Mrs. Schmitt, true to her German instinct, set out to celebrate it in the proper way. Pablo, her husband's field hand, was sent to the mountains to secure a cedar Christmas tree. There was a week's baking of honey cakes and other confectionery, and there were wash baskets full of them, and of nuts, raisins and candies. Senor Schmitt, who had been there when he was a boy, helped decorate the Christmas tree and made himself generally useful. The friendly families in the neighborhood, Americans and natives, had been cordially invited and on the 24th of December, after sun-

down, the Schmitts had a housefull of visitors. The festival was a teutonic innovation which was greatly appreciated by the youngsters.

For the older folks there was a German egg-nogg, correctly made and abundant in quantity. Tongues were loosened and an enjoyable evening was had. The children, after a time, became sleepy and the women took their responsibilities home and put them to bed. Upon the urgent invitation of their host several of the men remained, and indeed it would have been a pity to let so much fine egg-nogg go to waste.

Conversation was flowing evenly, and the glasses had been passed several times, when there came an ejaculation from Almandrado's corner, "Lord, what a cow!"

His glass was again filled and before long there was a repetition of, "Lord, what a cow!"

Then, after a silence of a few minutes, "Smitt, Amigo, I must have that cow. Sell me that cow. You know where to get another one."

"Almandrado, Amigo, you are mistaken about that cow; she——"

"No, I don't care what she costs. I can't do without that cow; let me have her. What will it cost you to get another?"

Thinking to discourage further negotiations, Schmitt named the price of six hundred dollars. In a moment Almandrado had taken out his pocketbook, laid twelve new crisp fifty dollar bills on the table, looked appealingly at Schmitt, "Now, let me have that cow."

"Friend Almandrado, I dislike to part with that cow, but I will let you have her," and he pocketed the six hundred dollars.

A whispered conversation took place between Schmitt and several of the Americans present and then general conversation was resumed, the principal topic being Jersey cows. Almandrado was encouraged in every possible way to stow egg-nogg under his vest and it was two o'clock in the morning before he fell asleep. His pocketbook was taken from him, the six hundred dollars put back into it and replaced, and then they laid him away in a spare room for the night.

He awoke about noon the following day and went to his home, returning an hour later with a rope.

"Smitt, Amigo, I have come to take home my cow, which I bought last night."

"Why, whom did you buy a cow from last night? This is the first I hear of it."

"I bought your cow, the one that gives the fine milk. I paid you six hundred dollars for her and Senor James and Senor Elkins were present."

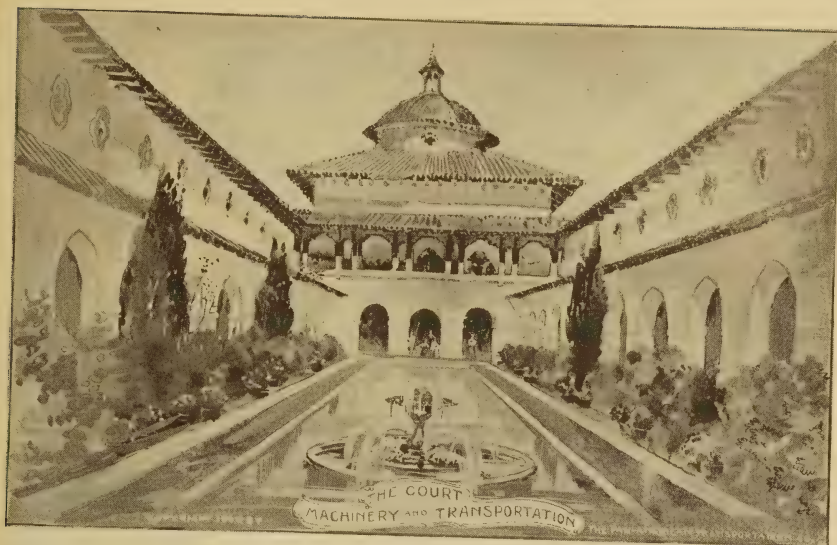
"Well, let us see Mr. Elkins. I think you had a pleasant dream."

Mr. Elkins was found in a few minutes.

"If you bought a cow last night, I don't remember it. You say you paid six hundred dollars for her. Did you examine your pocket-book?"

A hasty examination demonstrated that no money was missing and then Almandrado admitted that he must have been dreaming, but nevertheless he wanted a cow like that. It gradually dawned upon Elkins that Almandrado wanted a cow that gave egg-nogg, and he was appeased when he learned that Mrs. Schmitt would give him the recipe for making it. The story leaked out in time and even after thirty years some mischievous, gray-headed old friend will remind Almandrado of his dicker by quoting:

"Lord, what a cow!"



THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION AT BUFFALO, N. Y.

This great exposition was opened with due ceremony on May 1st, and will remain open to visitors until November 1, 1901. It surpasses all former expositions in several important features. It is the most beautiful and artistic display ever held before the public and is worthy of every man's visit. It exceeds all other expositions in elaborate and beautiful electric lighting effects, using over 200,000 lamps; in the splendor of its hydraulic and fountain effects; a stately canal over a mile long encircling the buildings; in exquisite horticultural and floral embellishments; a wall of foliage surrounding the exposition and brilliant flowers adorning the grounds; in original statuary and plastic ornamentation; more than 125 large groups of American sculpture; in the richness of its color decorations; all buildings being tinted in beautiful and harmonious shades and in the magnificence of its court settings. The cost of the exposition, buildings and grounds is about \$10,000,000. All the leading

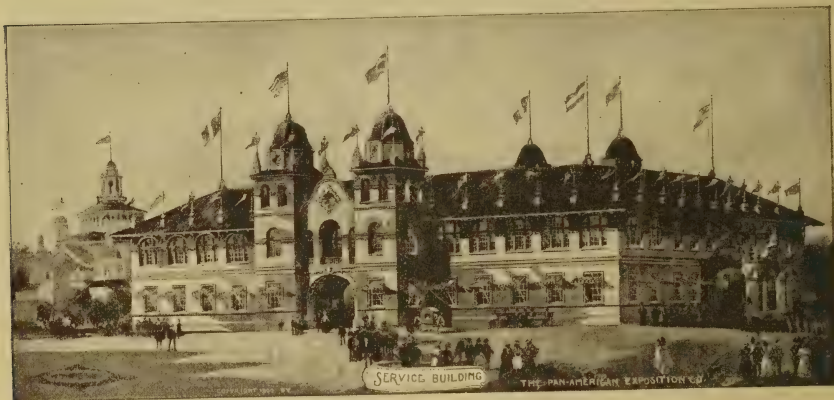
Pan-American countries will participate. The site of the exposition is 350 acres in the northern part of Buffalo, twenty minutes' ride from the center of the city. There are electric railways on three sides and twenty-six steam railways enter exposition station. There are twenty large buildings, a free adaptation of the Spanish renaissance; the Albright gallery of art, costing over \$350,000 and the New York state building of white marble in the style of the ancient Greek temples. It will be the grandest electrical exposition ever held, the towers for display being 375 feet high and operated with 5,000 horse-power transmitted from Niagara Falls and 4,000 horse-power developed on the grounds. The various government departments are represented in their displays and there have been secured special exhibits from Hawaii, the Philippines, Tutuila, Guam, Porto Rico and Cuba. Among the special features of the exposition are the Stadium for sports, with a seating capacity of 12,000 people; Temple of Music

seating 2,000. The leading bands of the world will furnish the music. Among the entertainments are the Midway, the numerous free concerts and the congress of Indian nations, comprising forty-two tribes.

Buffalo is a city of 400,000 population, twenty-six railways, 250

passenger trains daily, 225 miles of asphalted streets and ample hotel accommodations.

Parties desiring to visit the exposition should call on or write for information to the agents of the Kansas City Southern railway, who will be pleased to furnish same.



THE INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS OF FORT SMITH, ARK.

As a commercial trade center the city of Ft. Smith, Ark., is well and favorably known throughout the United States. It is situated in a good agricultural country and does an extensive business with the Indian nations lying westward. Its further development from a commercial point of view is dependent upon the development of the Indian Territory, and its scope of influence will be limited by the new and younger towns which may grow up in that region. If the city were dependent entirely on its commercial prospects there would come in the course of time a stoppage in growth and a period of stagnation, but this condition need never be anticipated, for the unde-

veloped resources in the immediate vicinity of Fort Smith are truly wonderful.

The citizens themselves do not fully realize what a good thing they have and are content to import hardware, leather, cotton goods, wooden ware, pottery, woolen goods, wagons, farm implements, etc., from elsewhere, rake off a scant profit and hug themselves in the delusion that they are doing all they should in the creation of a big city. The fact that there are commercial competitors everywhere does not materially affect their pleasant dreams of future greatness.

There is perhaps in the whole United States no point better en-

dowed by nature for future growth than Fort Smith. Underlying the city at a shallow depth are vast deposits of coal, gas and oil, and few places on earth are provided with cheaper fuel. Pine and merchantable hardwoods abound everywhere in the vicinity and are of easy access. Fire, brick and potters' clays and fine building stones in town and within easy reach; good, pure water, a whole river full, flowing past the town. Fifty miles south are great deposits of iron ore, lead, zinc and copper; northeast about the same distance vast deposits of similar ores. To the west a vast stock raising country, capable of yielding meat, hides and wool in unlimited quantity. Nearer home within a radius of one hundred miles grain, cotton fruits of every description, and above all, a natural position which makes it one of the finest distributing centers west of the Mississippi river.

These resources have barely been touched; in fact, the native enterprise has been too inert to even

make an inventory of what nature has given the people of Fort Smith to build a city with. Splendid opportunities are available there for the manufacture and sale of ironware, lead and zinc products, wagons, buggies and agricultural implements, tools, hardware and stoves, steam and gasoline engines, furniture, architectural furnishings, pottery, brick, tile, leather, harness, saddlery shoes, blankets, woolen cloth, cotton goods, flouring mills and grain products, dried, preserved, canned and pickled fruits and vegetables and a multitude of other things for which the raw material is immediately at hand. The questions of fuel, labor, transportation and marketing are more easily disposed of here than at almost any other point. As to the market for products of the kind, it can be said that it is practically unlimited, as half of Arkansas, all of the Indian Territory, Oklahoma and much of Northern Texas can be supplied from this point.



LETTERS FROM UNCLE EPHRAIM.

Uncle Ephraim settled in Western Arkansas shortly after the Civil War. In his old home, the famous Goshen country of Northern Ohio, he was considered by the native a rolling stone, and a never-do-well. In his later years he prospered fairly well, and kept more or less in touch with his relatives in Northern Ohio. In reply to a letter from a nephew who had just married a wife and rented a farm, he wrote the letter, from which the following extracts are printed:

He approved of the young man's matrimonial venture, but has some remarks to make on the renting proposition. "Now, John, what are your prospects? Your father settled on 160 acres of government land, and on this he raised in comfort his family of four boys and two girls. The land was then new and more fertile than it is now. In time your father will go to his fathers. In due time there will be a division of the property and, divided among six, there will be only 26 2-3

acres apiece, not enough to raise a family on, and so the property is sold. Neither you, nor your brothers and sisters get money enough to buy a new farm, for land now sells at \$50 to \$75 per acre, whereas your father got it as a homestead. If the property sells at \$50 per acre, your share will be \$1,333, which is not enough to live on and barely enough to starve on. You may be able to buy a farm on time, but you will be a gray headed old man before you ever pay for it, if you are lucky enough to dodge a foreclosure. If you succeed, the best years of your life will be gone in the effort. After you have paid for your farm, what have you got? A certain number of acres of Earth's surface, on which you pay more taxes per acre than would be required to pay for land outright elsewhere, and on which you can exercise your ingenuity in spreading fertilizers. The cost of the fertilizers alone, would, acre for acre, buy a good farm in Arkansas. My dear John, if you are wise, you will look the issue squarely in the face. Let somebody else rent the farm you are now on, and go where you can get the most for your money. If you once realize that a dollar will buy more in one place than another, you will have made a great step forward. A dollar in Eastern Texas, or Western Arkansas and Louisiana will go much further in a land trade than it will in Ohio, Indiana or Illinois, and it is much easier to get in the former localities than in the latter. Good land along the Kansas City Southern Railway will range in price from \$2 to \$25 per acre. The productive capacity is equal to that of the fertilized lands of the Eastern States and fertilizers will not be needed for years to come. You are throwing away your opportunities and your time if you remain where the ownership of a farm is far beyond your immediate reach."

Some months later Ephraim received a letter from an elder brother, complaining about taxes, cost of fertilizers and small returns from the old home-

stead farm in the Goshen country.

"Jonas, your case needs looking into. You live in old Goshen, a rich country. You have 200 acres all in good shape and bringing a moderate revenue. You can cash that land for \$75 per acre and can possibly get more. You are considered well to do compared with many of your neighbors. Are you right in staying there the remainder of your life? Or should you sell out and move to another country? You are now sixty years old and your children are about all grown up. You have raised a large family and you frequently hear the name of grandfather and grandmother called. What does this mean? It has a meaning, and a mighty one, too. Your grandson can define the meaning for you, as he will fifteen or twenty years from now, and let me tell you now what it will be:

"My grandfather had 200 acres of land; he had plenty and was a rich man, but when he died my father got only about forty acres of that land, upon which he, by dint of the closest economy, has managed to raise us children. He is dead, and I have no land, nor have my brothers and sisters. I am a renter, and two of my brothers work in the factory in town for a bare subsistence."

"Now, Brother Jonas, this looks like a strong statement, but it's the plain truth, nevertheless. My boys and their children are provided for, though I began with nothing after the foreclosure. The boys have farms of their own, and I have land enough for all my grandchildren. Your 200 acres at \$70 are worth to-day \$14,000, which would buy in Western Arkansas or Louisiana or Eastern Texas 4,666 acres at \$3 per acre, which, in less than twenty years, ought to be worth \$50 per acre, or \$233,300, and if they reach only half this value in the given time, they are worth nearly ten times as much as your old farm. There would be land enough to make twenty-nine farms of 160 acres each. Now, Jonas, you may be able to say to yourself after twenty years that you have had, or think you

have had a better living during this time, and that you had the old spring, orchard and the like at your command. If you had moved to this country you would have lived just as well and would be worth between \$116,000 and \$233,300. These little comforts have cost you the difference between \$14,000 and \$116,000, which would be \$102,-

000. Isn't that a rather high price to pay for a little sentimental luxury?

"You remind me, Brother Jonas, of the man whom Jesus Christ so severely rebuked, when he said to him: 'Thou wicked and slothful servant,' etc., and commanded, 'Take therefore the talent from him and give it unto him which hath ten talents.' Matthew xxv:25-28."



VALUES OF ORCHARD AND BERRY CROPS.

Strawberry culture in Northwestern Arkansas is becoming more profitable each year. The quality of the crop is becoming well known, and its distribution in the markets is well arranged, so as to meet all moderate demands. A good crop of berries will net in the average about \$50 per acre,

and frequently \$100 has been made clear of expenses.

The apple crop is as profitable as a berry crop, and when an orchard is once in good bearing condition it is handled with less trouble than any other crop. A forty-acre orchard yields a net profit of about \$2000. The land suitable

for such an orchard can be purchased at present for \$400 to \$1000. After planting an orchard about six years will elapse before a paying crop can be expected. The land can, however, be put in strawberries, garden truck, etc., which can be made to pay the expenses of cultivation while the orchard comes into bearing.

Blackberries are a profitable crop in Northwestern Arkansas. An acre planted in blackberries near Siloam Springs has yielded 353 crates in 1899 and 350 crates in 1900, which netted over one dollar per crate.

The peach, pear and plum are grown extensively throughout the Ozark region, and where good varieties have been selected and the cultivation was perfect, the fruits properly packed before shipment, good financial results have always been obtained. The money yield

has been from \$100 to \$150 per acre, and there always has been a good demand for a first-class article.

The territory adapted to fine fruit growing extends along the Kansas City Southern railway from Joplin, Mo., to Shreveport, La. Apple culture must be confined more particularly to the Ozark region in Missouri and Arkansas, where the altitude is from 1500 to 2000 feet. The peach thrives well in the same region, but the more delicate Chinese and Japanese varieties seem to prefer the more southerly climate of Southern Arkansas, Northeastern Texas and Northwestern Louisiana. Strawberries do well on the coast lands in Texas and Louisiana and also yield fine money-making crops in Southern Missouri and Arkansas. The date of their ripening is governed by the latitude in which they are grown.



ON THE COWSKIN RIVER, K. C. S. RY.

POULTRY AND EGGS.

Very few people have an idea of the magnitude of the poultry and egg trade of Kansas, Southwest Missouri and Northwest Arkansas. Kansas alone ships 28,800,000 eggs each year, aggregating 200 car loads and worth about \$1,200,000. Large shipments of poultry and eggs are also made from numerous towns and railway stations in Western Missouri and Arkansas of which an accurate record is not available.

Among the several towns in Arkansas, noted for their poultry export, is Siloam Springs, famous also for its great strawberry shipments and fine fruits. It is

claimed that the local poultry product exceeds in value all the other exports of the town combined. The weekly shipments of poultry are reported at one car load, valued at about \$2,000, and of eggs four car loads, valued at \$6,000 each. This would make an average export of \$30,000 per week, or of \$360,000 per year.

There are half a dozen other towns handling perhaps an equal quantity of poultry yard products. As a farm by-product the proceeds of the poultry yard go a long way toward providing home comforts and household funds.



THE BEAUMONT AND PORT ARTHUR OIL FIELD.

Imagine the situation. In the extreme southeast corner of Texas, an old-fashioned, slow-going town of 8,000 or 10,000 people, fairly prosperous in its way by reason of its lumber industry and the rice plantations in the vicinity. Land was cheap and unless drained and provided with irrigating facilities was practically a drug in the markets. A few miles away, a new-comer was throwing money away in the popular estimation by boring for oil. The old citizen knew, of course, that there was no oil there; if it was there it was not good; if it was good, it was too far away from anywhere to ever find a market for it and all things considered, a fool and his money are soon parted. On New Year's day 1901, the new-comer with his derrick was the recipient of much misplaced sympathy and commiseration.

He struck oil! It spouted over the top of the derrick to a height

of 125 feet from the ground. The oil came in such abundance as to flood acres of ground and fill the water courses. It was something new to the old settler, yet did not greatly impress him. A young fellow came along and offered him fifty dollars an acre for his farm in the suburbs. It was thirty dollars more than he had paid for it and he let it go. A hundred per cent profit is enough for any man. He could have bought a dozen farms further out, but he knew also that such buyers don't come every day.

Three weeks later the town was full of excited strangers. His old farm had changed hands a dozen times, it was now valued at \$10,000 per acre and a week after that an oil company with a capital of \$2,000,000 held the property as its principal asset. Ten wells were spouting oil and fifty more were being drilled. In all directions immense oil derricks were rearing

their heads to the skies. The original population of Beaumont was lost in the thousands of new arrivals who ate and slept when and where they could and devoted their energies to the development of the greatest oil field in the United States, if not the world.

Beaumont has now from twenty to thirty thousand inhabitants and

lines have been laid to Port Arthur on the deep water canal and gulf and vast storage tanks have been erected there. Companies have been organized to lay pipe lines to New Orleans, Galveston, Houston and other cities; to force oil to the great iron districts in the vicinity of New Birmingham, Tex. Great oil ships are being built as rapidly as human ingenuity will permit, and in due time the oil fuel of Beaumont and Port Arthur will be delivered to all the cities on the Gulf of Mexico, and the Atlantic coast of North and South America, for the illumination of the cities through their gas works and to furnish motive power at less than half the cost of coal. The little lumber town on the Neches river and the little seaport, Port Arthur on Sabine Lake, have suddenly become the greatest oil center in the world and Port Arthur will become the greatest shipping point on the gulf. When the Nicaragua canal is built, every ship on its way to or from the Pacific ocean will stop here for its fuel, and connected as Port Arthur is, with the great grain, live stock, lumber and mineral region by the shortest line of railway, the Kansas City Southern railway, it is obvious that its trade in a very few years will be enormous.

No living man can form any idea as to the extent and value of this oil field. Being in ignorance of known quantities, the dealing in oil ventures might appear as speculative, but no speculation ever had a better basis for investment. Will it rain tomorrow? I don't know, but I will plant my seeds just the same. We know that coal fuel is scarce and high in price in Texas, that all the railroads and seven-eighths of the factories will use oil if they can get it; we know that the same rule will apply to all other cities along the gulf and Atlantic coast, and much will be needed in Europe. We



A BEAUMONT "GUSHER."

is the home of probably two hundred oil companies. Millions of dollars have been invested in lands, in machinery, in boring apparatus, in oil tanks, pipes and a multitude of other things. Pipe

know that the ships will use the oil in preference to the more expensive coal and save coal room for freight and finally we know that, being at tide-water, we can transport our oil cheaper than any other known source of supply. We know we have oil and the greatest

supply apparently on earth, but we don't know as yet the extent of the field. We know that every rod of ground from the gulf coast northward for one hundred miles is under suspicion of carrying oil beneath it.



COST OF PLANTING AN ORCHARD.

In Benton county, Arkansas, and other adjacent counties, the cost of planting an apple orchard is reckoned about as given below: The cost of the land is the first and most important item and this is governed by the quality, improvements, distance from the market and from the railway shipping station. First class cleared fruit lands within a radius of three or four miles from a good shipping point can ordinarily be had for, say, \$20.00 per acre. If an apple orchard is to be planted the trees will cost about \$4 per 100, and from 70 to 80 are planted to the acre. The trees will therefore cost \$2.80 to \$3.20 per acre. The labor involved in planting will cost about \$4 per acre, making the net cost about \$7 per acre. The growing

orchard will therefore cost \$27 per acre and the land will be in good shape for cultivation. Corn, potatoes, cow peas, cabbages, etc., can be grown in the orchard until it comes into bearing and the cultivation of the orchard during this time pays for itself in other crops. When the orchard is productive of marketable fruit the land is worth from \$75 to \$100 per acre.

Strawberries bear one year after planting. From 5,000 to 6,000 plants are required to set one acre of ground. The plants will cost from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per thousand and the cost of labor is about the same as with other fruit crops. The setting of the plants can be done to a large extent by boys. The profits on an acre of strawberries range from \$50 to \$100.



MISSOURI GOBBLERS.

LEAD AND ZINC MINING IN THE JOPLIN DISTRICT.

In 1720 the first discoveries of lead were made in the State of Missouri, and the mining of the metal has been carried on for fully a hundred years. New discoveries were made from time to time in various parts of the State, the mineral occurring in lodes, veins, pockets and disseminations. In the aggregate Missouri contains the greatest lead ore fields in the world. In 1848 the first lead mine is said to have been opened about two miles distant from Joplin Mo., and a year later ore was found on the townsite itself. Mining was carried on in a desultory way until the outbreak of the civil war, and was then abandoned. In 1870 lead cubes were again found at the grass roots and mined down to a depth of forty feet. The richness of the find induced many people to prospect for ore. Between 1870 and 1875, 23,700 tons were mined; in 1885, 11,225 tons, and in 1897, 30,825 tons. Since 1851 there were mined 386,726 tons of lead, valued at \$19,254,019, all of which came from the Joplin district.

In the earlier days of the lead mining industry the question of transportation was a serious one. There was no transportation to any market. In 1871 four furnaces were built to reduce and smelt the lead, which was then hauled by wagon to Baxter Springs, Oronogo and Kansas City for further transport to St. Louis.

At about the same time the miners found a foreign substance in their mines, generally at a

depth of 35 feet, which was thrown out as valueless. Some mines were abandoned owing to the great quantity of the material found. Owing to its resemblance to rosin and its crystalline formation it was called "rosin tiff," or jack. In 1872 it was ascertained that this rejected substance was a high-grade zinc ore. After a time came a good demand for this ore, and the abandoned lead mines were again operated for the zinc they contained. The output of zinc in 1874 amounted to 5,000 tons, valued at \$51,000; in 1880, to 27,500 tons, valued at \$440,000; in 1885, to 65,600 tons, valued at \$1,148,000; in 1890 to 114,900 tons, valued at \$2,642,700; in 1897, to 181,535 tons, valued at \$3,209,118. The total output since 1874 is valued at \$35,861,935. The value of the lead and zinc together being \$55,115,954.

The Joplin mining district, in common with other zinc and lead districts in Southwest Missouri and Northwestern Arkansas, present unusual advantages to individual miners. Nearly all mining is carried on under the lease system. The miner simply leases from the owner of the land a mining lot 200x200 feet square. If he finds ore he works it at his own expense, paying the usual royalty 20 per cent to the owner of the land. He may make a fortune in a week or a month, or may throw up his lease and try somewhere else in the neighborhood. All he needs is a pick, shovel, windlass and a grubstake. If

he fails and uses up his grub before he strikes good ore, the prospering mines all around will give him ample opportunity for employment and put him on his feet again. There is considerable difference in the output of the mines.

some yielding as high as 50 and 60 per cent ores, while others may not average over 25 per cent. Numerous large fortunes have been made in lead and zinc mining by men who came to the district without means and the same opportunities are open to others.



SULPHUR SPRINGS, ARK.—SOME INFORMATION.

This locally famous health resort is situated in the northeast corner of Benton county, Arkansas, a few miles south of the Missouri state line and is distant from Kansas City 205 miles. The immediate surroundings, owing to the somewhat hilly character of the country, the numerous smaller water courses and the timber growth incident to the slopes of the Ozark range, are rather picturesque than otherwise. There is sufficient diversity in the landscape to entertain for a time at least the newcomer, who may be in search of either health or pleasure. The principal attraction will always be the benefits likely to be obtained from the use of the waters incident to the locality.

Springs are quite numerous and the waters of several are credited with highly curative properties. The most noted among them are

Chalybeate or Iron Spring.

Carrying carbonate of lime, magnesia, carbonic acid, soda and iron. Its waters are said to be beneficial in complaints peculiar to women and cases of general debility. The

waters are credited with strong recuperative powers.

The Saline Spring.

Carries in solution and suspense sulphate of soda, bicarbonate of soda, chloride of sodium, bicarbonate of magnesia, salts of lithia, stronthia, iron and carbonic acid gas. The waters are credited with favorable action in cases of stomach catarrh, sluggish liver, dyspepsia, constipation, gout and rheumatism.

The White Sulphur Springs.

Contain a large percentage of sulphuretted hydrogen, together with soda, magnesia, iron and sulphate of lime, and are used extensively for the relief of liver disorders, abdominal plethora, malaria, rheumatism, gout, tuberculosis, kidney troubles, etc.

The region in which Sulphur Springs is located is famous for its production of fruits, poultry and dairying and the getting of a good meal is considered an easy proposition. There are three hotels in the town, with a combined capacity of 100 guests, the rates varying from \$3.50 per week to \$7.00 per week, the transient rates being respectively \$1 and \$2 per day.



BIRDS-EYE VIEWS OF SULPHUR SPRINGS PARK.



VIEW OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, ARKANSAS.

ZINC, LEAD AND COPPER IN SOUTHWESTERN ARKANSAS.

Within the last two or three years a new mining region has been explored and partially developed in Sevier and Polk counties in Southwestern Arkansas. The most extensive diggings are situated near Gillham, about 67 miles north of Texarkana, on the main line of the Kansas City Southern Railway. Iron ore of good quality is extra abundant throughout the whole region, but undeveloped. The zinc and lead ores are, however, being systematically mined.

This new zinc and lead field presents to the miner in this class of ores features altogether different

from those obtaining in the better known zinc fields peculiar to Joplin, Mo., Galena, Kan., and other fields in their vicinity. In Sevier and Polk counties, Arkansas, the ore is always found in well defined fissures or lodes, the country rock being either trachite, traprock or basic granite, quartz always forming part of the gangue. These fissure veins or lodes lie parallel to each other and also at right angles. In mining they present the great advantage of being always in sight, of being worked mine fashion and in a systematic way. It is practicable after sinking a shaft, a

winze and two drifts or levels, to determine to a ton how much ore there is in the mine. The fissures or lodes in one working reach a thickness of twenty-three feet. The prevailing ore is zinc, carrying a considerable quantity of lead, silver and copper. The gangue matter in some of these veins carries 7 per cent of high grade copper, \$1.25 per ton in gold, 24 per cent of lead and picked samples have shown as high as 622 ounces of silver to the ton. Equally good finds have been made at Jansen, Hatfield and Mena in Polk county, and here it is claimed that gold has been found in paying quantity. Several prospects carrying gold ore are now being worked. Present indications point to the rapid development of an extensive mining industry in the counties mentioned.

The conditions attendant to profitable mining are exceptionally favorable in this locality. Fuel and living are very cheap. The ores in places run about 15 per cent. They can be mined, concentrated, milled and freighted to the railroad at \$8 per ton. This relates to the zinc only, there being a fur-

ther profit in the lead, silver and copper also extracted.

Among the several mining enterprises in this region is the Southern Zinc and Copper Mining Company, with headquarters at Gillham, Ark. On the property of this company are four distinct fissure veins lying parallel to each other and about 60 to 75 feet apart. One of their veins is 23 feet wide across the bottom of the shaft at a depth of 115 feet, and the vein is said to be widening downward. The fissures can be traced over several miles of country by their immense outcroppings.

The most attractive feature about this new mining region is the fact that the ore is always in sight; that the veins are continuous and may be measured.

In the Joplin and adjacent district the ore seems to be zinc and lead only, disseminated through sedimentary limestone by the action of water. Hence it appears irregularly in pockets and deposits. In the Southwest Arkansas district the ore occurs in veins very well defined, and is purely of volcanic origin.



INDUSTRIES ON THE LINE OF THE KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

Very few stretches of country are so well provided with developed and undeveloped agricultural, mineral, forest and live stock resources as is the country contiguous to the line of the Kansas City Southern Railway. Nearly every product for which there can be a possible de-

mand is available and usually in large quantity. In some lines an enormous business is annually transacted. Extensive shipments of the products named below come from the railway stations mentioned in connection with them.

Wheat, Corn, Hay and small

grain are grown, shipped and handled at the following named stations:

Kansas City, Drexel, Amsterdam, Amoret, Worland, Horton, Hume, Stotesbury, Richards, Katy, Swarts, Oskaloosa, Burgess, Fuller, Pittsburg, Kniveton, Asbury, Gultfon, Joplin, Neosho, Goodman, Lanagan, Gravette, Siloam Springs, Westville, Stilwell, Sallisaw, Spiro, Fort Smith, Poteau, Howe, Mena, Wilton, Texarkana and Shreveport.

Rice is grown at and shipped from Lake Charles, Beaumont, Nederland and Port Arthur. Extensive rice mills are operated at Lake Charles and Port Arthur.

Flax and other Seeds are produced at Ashdown, Vivian, Mooringsport, Blanchard, Frierson, Hollingsworth and Mansfield.

Commercial Truck gardening and Commercial Fruit and Berry growing are carried on extensively at Bentonville, Cove, De Queen, Fort Smith, Gentry, Grannis, Gravette, Janssen, Mena, Rich Mountain, Siloam Springs, Sulphur Springs, Wilton, Winthrop, Poteau, Texarkana, Shreveport, Lake Charles, Redland, Sallisaw, Hornbeck, Goodman, Joplin, Lanagan, Neosho.

Poultry and Eggs are shipped extensively from Siloam Springs, Sulphur Springs and Fort Smith.

Cattle, Horses and Mules, Hogs and Sheep.—All the stations named below ship some, if not all the kinds of live stock above named. Jaudon, Cleveland, Lisle, Drexel, Merwin, Amsterdam, Amoret, Hume, Amos, Stotesbury, Richards, Katy, Oskaloosa, Burgess, Pittsburg, Kniveton, Joplin, Neosho, Anderson, Noel, Sulphur Springs, Siloam Springs, Gravette, Decatur, Gentry, Westville, Stilwell, Spiro, Fort Smith, Howe, Heavener, Texarkana, Bloomburg, Mooringsport, Blanchard, Shreveport, Mansfield and Hornbeck.

Sugar and Molasses—Shreveport and Lake Charles, La.

Cotton is produced in great quantity and shipped from the stations of Redland, Spiro, Heavener, Mena, Janssen, Grannis, Gillham, De Queen, Horatio, Winthrop, Wilton, Ashdown, Ogden, Texarkana, Bloomburg, Ravanna, Mooringsport, Blanchard, Shreveport, Frierson, Kingston, Mansfield, Benson, Converse, Noble's, Zwolle, Many, Florian, Hornbeck, Orange, Leesville, Rose Pine, De Ridder and Singer.

Coal and Coke are mined and shipped from Hendrix, Oskaloosa, Kelleys, Fuller, Nelson, Pittsburg, Joplin, Noel, Ravanna, Shady Point, Poteau, Bonanza, Howe and Texarkana.

Lead and Zinc Ores are mined at Joplin, and recent discoveries have been made of lead, copper and zinc ores near Mena, Ark.

Building stone, marble, slate, etc., are abundant at several places. Large shipments are made from Kansas City, Joplin, Madge, Noel, Mena, Bunch, Marble, Fort Smith and Shreveport. Near Marble and Bunch, I. T., are very large and fine deposits of marble, and near Mena, Ark., are several extensive slate quarries.

Petroleum is being developed at Amsterdam, Merwin, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Lake Charles and other points on the line. One of the largest oil fields of the United States, if not of the world, has been discovered in the vicinity of Beaumont and Port Arthur, and an enormous oil business is now being developed there.

Cement, Lime, Bricks, Tiling, Sewer Pipe and Pottery are manufactured at a number of places, the most important being Pittsburg, Gultfon, Siloam Springs, Sallisaw, Poteau, Winthrop, Fort Smith, Texarkana and Shreveport.

Furniture is manufactured at

Kansas City, Fort Smith and Texarkana in large quantity. At the two last named points there is an abundance of timber suitable for this purpose.

Pine Lumber.—The most extensive pine forests now existing anywhere in the United States are situated on the line of the Kansas City Southern Railway. Nearly all of Western Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and the Great Northwest are now supplied with yellow pine from this region. The number of mills run into the hundreds. The more important pine lumber shipping points on the line are the following: Anderson, Lanagan, Stilwell, Fort Smith, Poteau, Howe, Heavener, Petros, Thomasville, Longston, Harris, Acorn, Mena, Rush, Hatfield, Cove, Holton, Janssen, Bowman, Wickes, Womacks, Grannis, Ryder, Moores, Gillham, Kings, Pullman, Avon, De Queen, Burlingame, Horatio, Morris, Ferry, Jackson, Winthrop, Allene, Rankin, Ashdown, Hudson, Ogden, Ammerman, Texarkana, Cass, Dodd Junction, Myrtis, Gallo-way, Vivian, Brant, Lewis, Shreveport, De Soto, Trenton, Nolands, Converse, Nobles, Palmers Mill, Zwolle, Fisher, Ayers, Florian, Zimmerman, Everett, Orange, Hawthorne, Leesville, Clays, Cooper, Pickering, Neame, Rose Pine, Williams, Singer, Midway, Bon Ami, Huggins, Lemon, Turners, Westlake, Lake Charles, Ruliff, Morgans and Beaumont.

Hardwood timbers, Posts, Ties, Cooperage, Telegraph Poles, Furniture Woods and Cord Wood are very abundant at many points. The principal shipping points are Swarts, Pittsburg, McElhany, Goodman, Anderson, Lanagan, Noel, Gravette, Decatur, Poteau, Howe, Rich Mountain, Harris, Acorn, Mena, Pryors, Hatfield, Janssen, Bowmans, Wickes, Grannis, Gillham, Horatio, De Queen, Winthrop, Burlingame, Morris

Ferry, Wilton, Ashdown, Hudson, Texarkana, Dodd Junction, Vivian, Ananias, Shreveport, Forbing, Benson, Zwolle, Many, Fisher, Ayers, Zimmerman, Everett, Orange, Hawthorne, Leesville, Clays, Coopers, Neame, Rose Pine, Brent, Williams, Singer, Lake Charles, Ruliff, Morgans and Beaumont.

A great coal district extends from Amoret, Mo., to Pittsburg, Kan. The coal output from Pittsburg is enormous, exceeding 200,000 car loads per annum.

Joplin, Mo.—This is the center of the great lead and zinc mining district which has attracted the attention of the world. The total output for 1898 exceeded \$7,000,000 in value (which was greater than the returns from Klondike during the same period), and for the year 1899 \$11,000,000, showing a marvelous increase and rapid rate of development of mining interests.

South of Joplin the road runs for miles through splendid orchards and small fruit farms—it is known as the "Big Red Apple" country. Strawberries in this locality often net \$100 per acre.

Goodman, Mo., is headquarters for the largest apple-producing region in the United States.

Sulphur Springs and Siloam Springs, Ark., are delightful health resorts and celebrated for their curative waters. Siloam Springs is one of the largest apple-shipping points in the country.

Forth Smith, Ark.—This is the center of the Arkansas and Indian Territory coal districts, which are traversed by this road for about fifty miles, with numerous branch lines to extensive mines.

Mena, Ark.—In this locality are produced the finest peaches and small fruits obtainable. This is also a timbered country. Lands are cheap, and when cleared make good farms.

A large portion of the Port Arthur Route territory will justify

prospecting for lead and zinc and other minerals. In fact, important finds have already been made near Mena, Janssen, Hatfield and Gillham. One of the three antimony mines in the United States is located near Gillham.

Texarkana, Ark., and Shreveport, La., are centers of a great cotton belt and are two of the largest cotton markets and distributing points in the South. The Bottom Lands in this vicinity are largely devoted to the growing of vegetables, melons and various small fruits.

Fifty miles south of Shreveport is the southern extremity of the Short Leaf Pine District, which commences at the Arkansas river. It is here also that the Great Long Leaf Yellow Pine District begins which extends as far south as Beaumont. This is the finest body of

uncut long leaf yellow pine in the world, covering an area about 150 miles long and 125 miles wide. Trees in this body of timber run from sixty to ninety feet to the first limb and are from four to five feet in diameter at the butt. The stumpage will run from 8,000 to 15,000 feet per acre.

The country immediately north of Beaumont, Tex., and as far south as Port Arthur, includes the finest agricultural lands on the line, known as "The Texas Coast Prairie Lands"—a level plain with heavy black productive soil. Settlers and investors are expending thousands of dollars yearly in rice culture—no better lands can be found in all the South for this purpose. Rice yields from \$10 to \$25 per acre net profit and is considered a certain crop.



BAKER SPRINGS, ARK.

These famous springs, discovered half a century ago by a noted pioneer, whose name they bear, are situated on the northern line of Howard county, Arkansas, and near the border of Polk county right in the heart of the most picturesque part of the mountains at an altitude estimated at from 1500 to 2000 feet. They are reached by stage from Wickes Station on the Kansas City Southern Railway, from which point they are distant twelve miles. Wickes Station is eighty miles north of Texarkana.

The Springs furnish an abundant supply of as fine White Sulphur Water as the world affords; pronounced by those who have visited them and partaken of the water to be almost identical with the far-famed White Sulphur Springs of Virginia, and by many the water is considered superior.

The scenery and surroundings

are in every way attractive and beautiful. The picturesque mountains, the clear streams, cooling breezes and refreshing, appetizing and invigorating waters of the Springs furnish a natural tonic for nearly all the ills that human flesh is heir to. Fishing in the streams is good and the tuneful mosquito is absent.

A number of citizens of Texarkana, recognizing the desirability of an inexpensive resort during the summer months, where genuine rest, recreation and social enjoyment could be had, purchased the land on which these Springs are situated and expended a considerable sum in improving the Springs, building cottages, bath house, etc.

The hotel is commodious and well appointed. It has a large two-story sleeping apartment, a dining room capable of seating seventy people, and a large sitting room. All its rooms are light and airy and

nearly all modern conveniences are at hand. The table is very good, as there is an abundance of everything desirable in the country.

The rates are very moderate and those who wish to rest and recuperate can do so at small expense.

The Kansas City Southern Railroad has put on round trip rates

from Texarkana to Baker Springs, from July 1st to September 25th.

Board at Baker Springs with room \$1.00 per day; without room 75 cents per day. Special rates to large families and reduced rates for children. Information may be obtained by addressing,

BAKER SPRINGS HOTEL,
Wickes, Arkansas.



COAL, GAS, AND OIL IN BATES COUNTY, MO.

Bates county and the adjacent county of Cass have long been known to contain valuable deposits of coal, and indications of crude petroleum and gas are so numerous that their presence in commercial quantity is undoubted. The strongest indications have been found at Drexel in Cass county and Amoret, Amsterdam and Merwin in Bates county. Coal beds of fine quality, three to four feet in thickness, are known to underlie the vicinity at Amsterdam. They have been worked at many points and coal is delivered to the residents at 6 cents per bushel. Considerable quantities have been shipped with good financial results, but coal mining as a special industry has not been fully developed. Natural gas has been found in many places at a depth of sixty feet and is used extensively for fuel and light—many farms being supplied from gas wells bored on the premises. The frequent occurrence of crude petroleum leads to the belief in the existence of large supplies close at hand. Systematic borings are now being made at Amsterdam.

At Drexel a strong flow of gas has been discovered and the prospects for the discovery of oil are considered very good. Borings are being made within a few miles from town.

At Merwin in Bates county there is unusual activity in prospecting for oil and the deepest borings are

now being made at this point. Two companies have been formed to thoroughly explore the oil resources of this region, as the surface indications of a bountiful supply are unusually good. The oil found is of a very superior quality, being a black waxy lubricating oil. It is found in many springs that yield from one to three gallons per day and wells eighty feet in depth have yielded fifty gallons per day. Twenty-three wells and springs in the vicinity carry oil. One of the companies now at work proposes to bore 2,000 feet if necessary to develop the oil resources in the neighborhood of Merwin. Gas is found in many places and the farmers use it for light and fuel. A recent discovery of gas at 220 feet produces a pressure of seventy-five pounds to the square inch. Several very strong gas wells have been tapped at a depth of 140 feet. Coal is found at a depth of sixty to eighty feet and is found in beds from three to three and one-half feet thick. A deposit of cannel coal seven feet thick and of superior quality has been recently struck.

At Amoret is the seat of another oil and mineral company, now engaged in making test borings for gas and oil. Coal, oil, gas and zinc are known to exist in the neighborhood in quantity and the parties interested feel confident that they will discover a large quantity of valuable oil.



MOWING RICE AT NEDERLAND, TEXAS.

RICE CULTURE ON THE GULF COAST.

Along the gulf coast, extending almost from New Orleans to the Rio Grande, is a strip of lowland even marshy in some places, which for many years was thought to be good for pasturage only. This strip is from fifty to one hundred miles wide, nearly smooth, grass-covered plain throughout, but traversed by numerous water channels. The soil by analysis was found to be rich, but crops could not be successfully grown until some one discovered that it needed drainage. With the drainage of these lands came fertility, and later with the introduction of irrigation came the cultivation of rice.

This branch of agriculture has made wonderful progress during the last ten years. Wherever there is an abundance of water and fairly level land rice cultivation has been introduced. Enormous canals traverse these regions and from these most of the rice farms are supplied. In some locations

good water in the greatest abundance is obtained from wells, and in these each farmer owns his water supply absolutely. Where dependent on the canals a moderate rental for the water, payable in part of the crop, is exacted. At Crowley and Lake Charles, La., Port Arthur and Beaumont, Tex., are very extensive irrigation plants and the farmers operating under them have made excellent profits. Aside from the irrigation a rice crop is handled in about the same manner as wheat, the same machinery being used.

Rice is always sold and handled by the barrel, 162 pounds to the barrel. From 12 to 20 barrels are usually grown to the acre, the average price being about \$3.00 per barrel, sometimes going as high as \$4.50 to \$5. An acre of rice will produce from \$35 to \$80, and an average of \$50. Some estimate of cost of cultivation and profit can be obtained from the following state-



THRESHING RICE AT PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS.

ment, which can be easily verified in any rice growing locality:

160 acres of land, at say \$15.....	\$2,400
House and stable	500
55 barrels of seed rice at \$3	165
Hired man for 6 months, at \$20.....	120
Two spans of mules and horses at \$275	550
Machinery and wagon	250
Feed for teams	125
Board for hired man for 6 months....	72
Fencing	250
2240 empty sacks for rice, at 10c....	224
Threshing 2240 sacks of rice, at 10c..	224
Other expenses, threshing, etc.....	100

Total for land, fencing, planting expenses

\$4,980

The yield from 160 acres at fifteen barrels per acre would be 2,400 barrels, and at \$3 per barrel would be worth \$7,200. After paying for the land and all other expenses there is left a balance of

\$2,220 clear cash in favor of the farmer.

Improved rice lands range in price from \$12.50 to \$25.00 per acre and are in good demand. A score of young cities have grown up along the gulf coast which depend entirely on rice culture for their existence. During the last three months of 1900 over \$10,000,000 have been invested in the rice industries of Texas and Louisiana alone. On the line of the Kansas City Southern railway near Port Arthur there is a great area of unoccupied rice land well provided with canals which can be obtained on easy terms.

SUMMER FISHING IN WESTERN MISSOURI, ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA AND TEXAS.



The catching of a fish or several of them, when considered from a sportsman's point of view, resolves itself into a rather complicated affair. The first consideration is to find a place where there are some fish; next to get a vacation to interview them; then the consideration of the cost of the trip and the accessories incident to the expedition. Figured from a financial point of view the fish caught usually come high, compared with market prices. If one figure in the good time had, the sport in most cases is considered worth the money.

Western Missouri abounds in good fishing streams and among these the Elk or Cowskin river, which can be reached from Noel and Lanagan Station; the Neosho and Spring rivers near Neosho and Asbury are recommended by those familiar with the country. The U. S. fish hatchery is at Neosho, Mo., and many streams have been stocked with fine game fish. The fish most common in the streams are black bass, trout, croppie, perch, etc., etc.

In the Indian Territory good fishing is reported on the Black Fork, near Thomasville and Barron Fork, near Barron Fork station.

In Arkansas good fishing streams are numerous and black bass, trout,

perch, croppie and other fish abound. The Illinois river near Sioam Springs, the Poteau near the station of the same name and the smaller streams near Mena, Ark., are favorably mentioned. Nearly all the mountain streams are reported full of fish and one cannot well go amiss anywhere.

The Louisiana waters have been long and favorably known and there is good fishing in every stream. Caddo Lake and the numerous bayou's of the Red, Neches and Sabine rivers are favorite resorts for the local fishermen. Ananias, La., not far from Shreveport, La., situated on one of the lakes or bayous of Red river, is a famous fishing resort and is headquarters of the Ananias club. There is also a fishing club at Lanagans, Mo.

The real thing in the way of fishing sport is, however, according to tradition and evidence, at Port Arthur, Texas. The man who has once struggled with a fifty pound tarpon and won, will care little after that to waste valuable time on a three-pound bass.

Fish can be caught in Lake Sabine every day in the year, but are more plentiful in the summer. Then, as the waters of the lake get more and more salt, the game fish from the Gulf come up, and the varieties in one day's catch is surprising.

At the head of the game fish ranks the silver tarpon. He is the king of game fish. His beauty when he leaps from the water a gleaming streak of silver, his great size, his fierceness and tenacity, make him easily first of all game fish, and lovers of this incomparable sport travel hundreds of miles to seek the waters he frequents. Volumes have been written on tarpon-fishing, but no description can convey an idea of the thrill the angler experiences

when the tarpon takes the hook and the line sings from the reel.

The gar, which is caught in the lake, and is found in even greater abundance in Taylor's Bayou near the Fish Oil Plant, hardly ranks as a game fish, but its great size and the fact that it sometimes puts up a good fight make the quest interesting.

The finest food fish in the Gulf is the pompano. The Spanish mackerel and redsnapper rank next. The latter are never found near the coast, but run in shoals, near the banks, forty to fifty miles out, and make exciting sport, as they take the hook readily.

Flounders are an excellent table

fish and are taken with hook and line, though the favorite method of the pot-hunter is to spear them by torchlight at night. There are three varieties of bass, all good for the table, and the redfish is large in size and excellent in quality. Of course, the humble catfish is here in abundance, and is not to be despised.

Shrimp, hardshell crabs, and the most delicious oysters that are found anywhere are here in abundance. The Port Arthur oysters have won a reputation for size and quality second to none.

If you seek sport with gun or rod, you will not be disappointed if you come to Port Arthur.



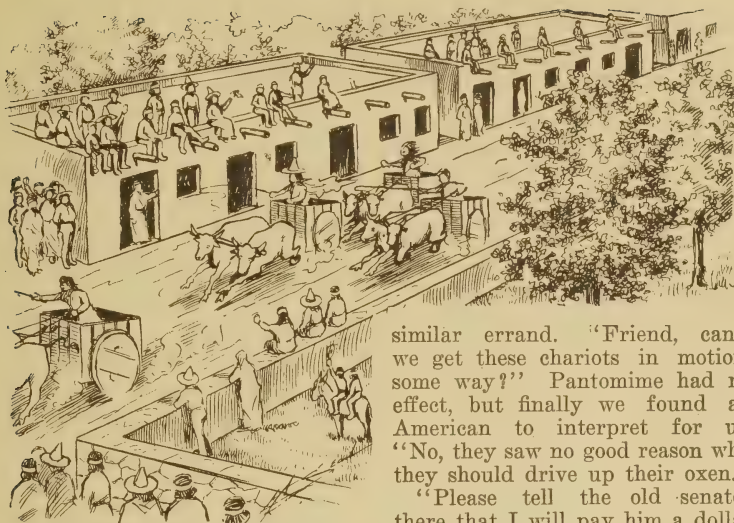
SOMETHING ABOUT AMSTERDAM, BATES COUNTY, MO., AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.

Amsterdam is a prosperous village of 400 inhabitants, near the western boundary of Bates county, on the main line of the Kansas City Southern Railway, sixty-two miles south of Kansas City. It has a bank, five general stores and two good hotels, as well as several neat church buildings and a very fine graded school. It is the trading point for a large area of fine agricultural country surrounding it and does a thriving business in handling the local products.

The principal crops grown in the vicinity are corn, oats, flax, wheat, kaffir corn, sorghum, broom corn, Irish and sweet potatoes hay, etc., of which a large surplus is shipped each year. Poultry, eggs, butter and game in season are also items of considerable export. Quite a large business is done in the export of cattle, hogs, horses, mules and sheep, the annual shipments amounting to about two hundred car loads. Fruits and vegetables of

all sorts common to the latitude yield very satisfactory results, but are as yet not produced commercially.

A fine quality of coal in beds three to four feet in thickness underlies the whole region and is worked at many points. It is generally delivered to the residents at 6 cents per bushel. Considerable coal has been shipped with good financial results, but coal mining as a special industry has not yet been fully developed. Natural gas has been found in several places at a depth of sixty feet and quite a number of people have piped the gas to their houses where it is used for light and fuel. Good water is abundant everywhere in the vicinity and in town. Crude petroleum occurs in so many places as to furnish the strongest indications of a very large oil supply close at hand, and movements are now underway to ascertain definitely what quantity is available for practical business purposes.



A PUEBLO CARETA RACE.

F. E. ROESLER.

Last November found me in Ysleta of the north, near Las Vegas. The good folks living there are hard workers, somewhat primitive in their habits and aboriginal in their dress. On my arrival I found on one of the streets four of the old rickety, squeaking and groaning caretas. They were primitive as in the days of Abraham. The wheels, about four feet high, were made of pieces of cottonwood logs, held together by wooden pegs, and the whole vehicle was as clumsy an affair as human ingenuity could possibly invent. None of the faults in construction had ever been covered with paint. Yoked to it by the horns were two pair of sturdy oxen, who under ordinary circumstances did well, if they traveled two miles an hour. Their drivers were wrinkled old men in their tribal costume, and clothed with sufficient dignity to entitle them to a seat in the United States senate or the supreme court.

It didn't take me long to rush to the hotel and get my kodak. A long-legged New Yorker was on a

similar errand. "Friend, can't we get these chariots in motion, some way?" Pantomime had no effect, but finally we found an American to interpret for us. "No, they saw no good reason why they should drive up their oxen."

"Please tell the old senator there that I will pay him a dollar to drive over against the wall there. I want a better background for my view."

The old senator was willing, but just then it occurred to our New Yorker that a careta race would be just the thing. "Will you stand half the cost?" "I'll go you," said I.

To the interpreter he remarked: "Please inform the supreme court that if they will drive around this block as fast as they can make their oxen go, we will pay the first man in four dollars; the next one three; the next two, and the last one in one dollar. They are to select the judges and we will pay the money into their hands before the race is run."

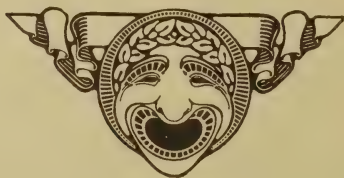
The old senator in brown smiled a big smile and remarked: "Mucho dinaro por poco trabajo," and his companions increased the wrinkles on their faces by a prodigious grin. They left their teams in charge of some small boys and proceeded to perfect arrangements. In half an hour the flat roofs of the gray adobe houses were decorated with a double row of youngsters, whose brown legs festooned the walls. On the street

were a thousand or more Pueblo Indians and a number of braying burros. Around the corner was coming a belated goatherd with his flock.

A feathered lance, with a bull's hide shield attached was planted in the ground as a marker, and with more or less difficulty the four caretas were finally brought into line. To each team was allowed a pair of whippers. The aged drivers mounted their caretas and at the beating of the tomtoms the whippers began to lay on the lash. The much surprised oxen raised their tails, then their heads, then tried to gore their tormentors, pushed the caretas forward and backward, endeavoring to go in any direction but the course laid out for them. After a flood of carambas and appeals to the saints, they were finally gotten in motion and amid the bellowing of the oxen, the groanings and squeakings of the ungreased axles, the barking of numerous dogs and the encouraging yells of more than a thousand Indians, the race was run. A flock of geese flew high over the pueblo to the grief of an ancient lady who was driving them home, and the herd of goats scattered in all directions, some treading with their sharp little

hoofs on the naked feet of the youngsters lining the street. As the caretas turned the first corner almost abreast, the spectators, many of whom were mounted on burros, started in pursuit. The burros were urged forward with all possible speed and gave vent to their feelings with a will. Pandemonium reigned indeed and rarely has a greater aggregation of noises been brought together in so limited a space. At a window near the church appeared the kindly face of the padre, apparently wondering what all the racket was about, but changing into a broad smile as the four caretas turned the corner, made for the home-stretch and passed the marking spear. With a terrific yell from the assembled crowd the race was finished.

The old senator was the last to pass the spear. Meeting our interpreter he remarked that he could not understand why these white men should squander their money in this way, but we thought the entertainment fully worth the money. It was the first time in five centuries that this American community went faster than a walk. We got a few good views of the crowd, but were so excited ourselves that we forgot to properly focus our cameras as the caretas came in on the home-stretch.



GOVERNMENT HOMESTEAD LANDS ON K. C. S. R'Y., ARKANSAS.

Several thousand people are now almost breaking their necks in the effort to be on hand when the government opens for settlement a few small reservations in the Indian Territory. The Indians having the first choice, will not leave much that is good lying around loose, and if the rushes for land are as they have been in previous years, not one in fifty will ever get a farm. It is much easier and cheaper to go into Western Arkansas, deliberately select a farm and settle with Uncle Sam for it, whose terms, as everybody knows, are very liberal. This government land is good for general farming, raising live stock, growing fruits and a multitude of other things, is well watered and well grassed. Most of it is timbered and housebuilding under such conditions is economical.

Mr. E. A. Schickler, receiver of the United States Land Office at Camden, Ark., March 22d, 1901, writes as follows in reply to an inquiry:

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, relative to the vacant lands along your road by townships. In reply to same I herewith submit list of vacant U. S. lands by townships, within a radius of fifteen or twenty miles of the road in Arkansas:

Polk County—Range 32, township 1, 9304 acres; township 2, 4715 acres; township 3, 204 acres; township 4, 80 acres; township 5, 4134 acres; township 6, 5370 acres. Range 31, township 1, 13,375 acres; township 2, 1426 acres;

township 3, 4233 acres; township 4, 3587 acres; township 5, 3500 acres; township 6, 1091 acres. Range 30, township 1, 7438 acres; township 2, 122 acres; township 3, 15,987 acres; township 4, 17,936 acres.

Sevier County—Range 32, township 7, 5149 acres; township 8, 639 acres; township 9, 120 acres; township 10, 80 acres. Range 31, township 7, 2273 acres; township 8, 641 acres; township 9, 247 acres; township 10, 231 acres. Range 30, township 7, 6976 acres; township 8, 1316 acres; township 9, 520 acres; township 10, 120 acres.

Howard County — Range 30, township 5, 14,920 acres; township 6, 7038 acres; township 7, 6976 acres; township 8, 1316 acres. Range 29, township 5, 9455 acres; township 6, 6308 acres; township 7, 12,045 acres; township 8, 723 acres.

Little River County—Range 31, township 11, 127 acres. Range 30 township 11, 922 acres; township 12, 160 acres.

Miller County—Range 28, township 14, 40 acres; township 16, 320 acres; township 17, 79 acres; township 18, 1920 acres; township 19, 40 acres; township 20, 120 acres. Range 27, township 14, 251 acres; township 15, 40 acres; township 16, 40 acres; township 17, 210 acres; township 18, 40 acres; township 20, 70 acres. Range 26, township 14, 130 acres; township 16, 40 acres; township 17, 200 acres; township 18, 40 acres; township 20, 438 acres.

I trust the foregoing informa-

tion will be satisfactory, very respectfully,

E. A. SCHICKLER,

Receiver.

According to the foregoing table there are 137,908 acres open for settlement in the counties of Polk, Sevier, Howard, Little River and Miller in the State of Arkansas. The

region generally lies high and is healthful. Some of the country is hilly and very large smooth farms form the exception rather than the rule, but the right kind of a chap can have

"Corn in the crib,
Money in the pocket;
A baby in the cradle,
A pretty wife to rock it."



INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

Fort Smith, Ark., is now seriously considering the merits of a proposition from parties residing in Wisconsin to erect a cotton mill of 5,000 spindles, the new plant to cost \$250,000. Fort Smith handles annually about 50,000 bales, much of which could be worked up at home. There are in all eighty manufacturing establishments in Fort Smith, representing an investment of \$3,500,000. The combined annual output is valued at \$2,150,000.

Joplin, Mo., has largely increased the capacity of the already extensive water supply system. With the improvement and enlargement now under construction the quantity of water will almost be doubled, thoroughly filtered and delivered to the consumers under a pressure of 60 pounds to the square inch.

Gillham, Ark. The Southwestern Zinc and Copper Mining Company, who have been for some time past operating a zinc mine, have recently found large deposits of antimony in one of their workings. Copper has been found in paying quantity in true fissure veins and a company has been formed to work it. At Rich Mountain, in one of its canons, almost pure illuminating oil has been discovered and a local company will begin borings immediately.

Mena, Ark. Several very fine slate deposits are now being developed in this vicinity. The Atlas Slate Company has about 15 men at work and the Southwest Slate Company is now installing one of the best slate plants in the United States. All the latest improvements in slate cutting and trimming have been introduced in

this quarry. About 25 men are regularly employed.

Joplin, Mo. The Joplin zinc and lead mining district has forwarded to the Pan-American exposition a very full and complete display of the mineral resources of Southwest Missouri. In addition to specimens of ores and metals there will be an elaborate display of brick and pottery clays, mineral paints and other mineral products.

Pittsburg, Kan. The Diamond Creamery Company of this place has been in operation for some time. The daily output of the creamery is 300 pounds of the finest butter, all of which finds immediate sale in Pittsburg. The plant is to be considerably enlarged in the near future. The product of the creamery has received medals and diplomas at the Paris exposition, Minnesota state fair, Trans-Mississippi exposition at Omaha and at other expositions.

Pittsburg, Kan. A new mattress factory has been opened here and its product is in good demand. The local dealers are well pleased with the new venture as heretofore they had to send to St. Louis or Kansas City for their goods. The plant is to be enlarged, as the present capacity is not sufficient to fill the orders now coming in.

Joplin, Mo. The United Lead and Zinc Paint Company has purchased a site for a large oxide paint factory. The plans and specifications for the necessary buildings are nearly completed and the erection of the buildings is to begin immediately. The company has purchased the Alice zinc mine, near West Plains, and will convert its ores into zinc oxide at that point, from whence it will be shipped to Joplin and be converted into merchantable paint.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

FORT SMITH, Ark.—The Capitol Furniture company, one of the new industries, gave a public opening recently. This establishment turns out about 100 bed room suits per day. The company employs 500 men and is operated entirely by home capital.

MENA, Ark.—A wholesale cigar factory has been recently established here, and at present the factory is over run with orders. The working capacity will be immediately enlarged.

GRAVETT, Ark.—The lime kilns at this place are being enlarged and a new railway switch has been built to facilitate the easier handling of the product, for which there is a good demand.

MENA, Ark.—The Mena Ice & Cold Storage company have been compelled to enlarge the capacity of their plant. The growth of the town has been so rapid that a doubling of the capacity has become necessary.

VINTON, La.—The Industrial Lumber company is putting in three new boilers and is putting in other enlargements and improvements. The mill at present makes a cut of 90,000 feet per day and is overwhelmed with orders.

GRAVETT, Ark.—The citizens are now figuring on the cost and benefits to be derived from a waterworks system.

FORT SMITH, Ark.—The Fort Smith Shoe Manufacturing company recently filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. The capital stock is \$50,000. David Speer, president; J. W. Patrick, vice president; Fred Titgen, secretary and treasurer.

PITTSBURG, Kas.—A new sewer-pipe plant has just been installed in this city. Some fifty men are employed at these works. The clay industry has rapidly increased at this point in the past few years, there being several extensive brick and tile works in operation, beside the new plant just started.

MENA, Ark.—The business men in conjunction with the city council, have decided to create a waterworks reservoir of 3,000,000 gallons capacity, construction to begin as soon as practicable. The propriety of holding an agricultural fair in the city of Mena, during the month of August, is now under discussion and a mass meeting

of the citizens has been called to consider the proposition.

TEXARKANA, Texas.—The water company of this city is now building a new reservoir and increasing its facilities for the distribution of water to the consumers.

FORT SMITH, Ark.—Fort Smith has been well favored in the way of manufacturing propositions. The citizens have just raised a large bonus for a new railroad; have secured the erection of a shoe factory, and have now before them two propositions to build cotton factories. Another proposition to build a packing house capable of packing 100 hogs per day; this will be a \$50,000 plant. The cotton mill proposition means a 5,000 spindle mill and an investment of \$100,000.

GENTRY, Ark.—Negotiations are now pending for the erection of a general flouring and grist mill. Another proposition to establish charcoal kilns is also before the people. It is thought that both propositions will be promptly accepted.

MANSFIELD, La.—The Mansfield Building and Loan Association has now perfected its organization and is ready for business.

OAKDALE, La.—The Oakdale Lumber company has just been organized here. Mr. Geo. Lock is president, Mr. F. W. Dearborn secretary.

DE QUEEN, Ark.—A new factory has just been opened here for the bottling and packing of carbonated waters and the manufacture of catsup, pickles, preserves and other goods which can be packed in glass.

JOPLIN, Mo.—The Brand-Dunwoody Milling company, who have done a magnificent flouring mill business for some time past, have been compelled to enlarge their mill. Its capacity will be greatly increased when the improvements now underway are finished.

NEOSHO, Mo.—The Neosho Electric Light company have decided to greatly increase the capacity of their electric plant and new dynamos and machinery have been ordered. When completed, their plant will be large enough to light the city.

SILOAM SPRINGS, Ark.—The Siloam Springs Water company has been recently organized for the purpose of shipping the waters of the Springs to other points, where same is in demand for medicinal purposes.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

R. H. Keith, President.
G. W. Megeath, Gen. Mgr.

Chas. I. Keith, Asst. Gen. Mgr. and
Gen. Sales Agt.

J. C. Sherwood, Auditor.
E. E. Riley, Treasurer.

CENTRAL COAL & COKE COMPANY.

Successors to

Keith & Perry Coal Company and Sweetwater Coal Mining Company.

MINES.

Panama, Mo., Weir City,
Kans., Scammon, Kans.,
Nelson, Kans., Bonanza,
Ark., Sweetwater, Wyo.,
Rock Springs, Wyo.
Daily Cap'y. 10,000 Tons Coal.

MINERS OF COAL.

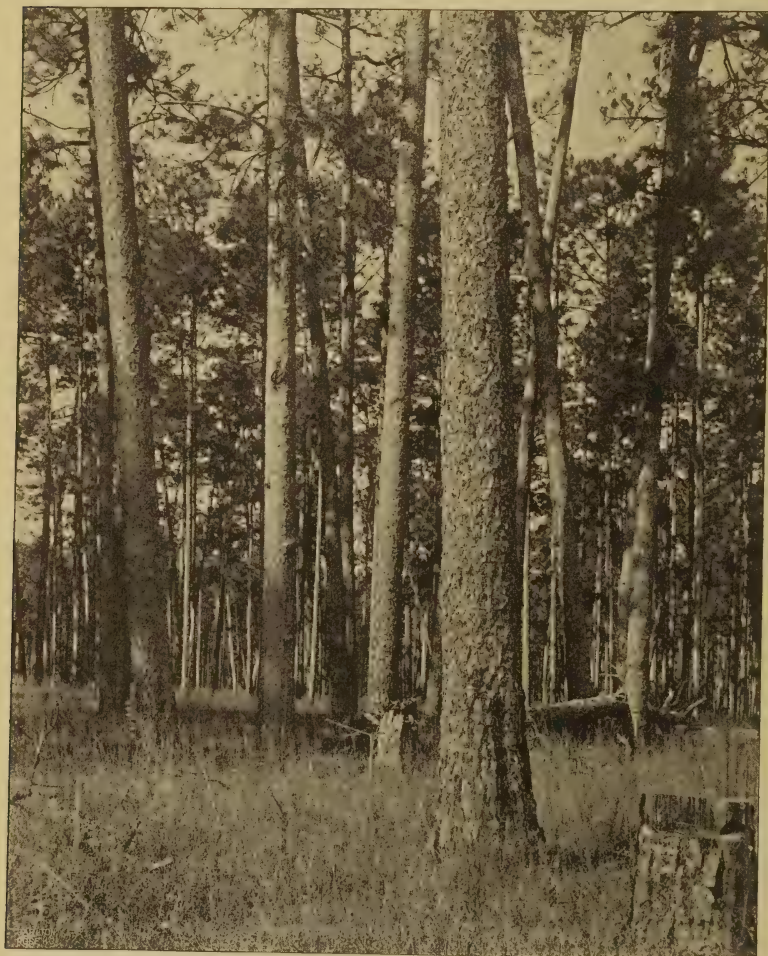
Manufacturers of

Lumber and Railway Timber.

Keith & Perry Bldg. Kansas City, Mo.

MILLS.

Texarkana, Texas; Ken-
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Daily Capacity 600,000 Feet
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E. E. SMYTHE.....General Freight Agent.
S. G. WARNER.....General Passenger and Ticket Agent.
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D. C. BEVARD.....Superintendent (So. Div.) Texarkana, Tex.
General Offices, Kansas City, Mo.

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W. L. ESTES.....First Vice President.
J. A. HANLEY.....Second Vice President.
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C. E. PERKINS.....General Freight Agent.
C. E. SWINDELL.....General Passenger and Ticket Agent.
General Offices, Texarkana, Tex.

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The authorized representatives of the Port Arthur Route whose names and addresses are given below will, upon application in person or by letter or telegram, promptly and cheerfully answer any inquiries concerning time of trains, rates of fare and transportation facilities.

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J. E. SMITH, (T. & Ft. S. R'y).....City Ticket Agent

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J. I. HAZZARD, (K. C. So. R'y).....General Agent

DALLAS, TEX.

A. CATUNA, (K. C. So. R'y).....General Agent

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W. H. MAPES.....City Passenger and Ticket Agent

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KANSAS CITY, MO., 9th and Walnut Streets.

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E. C. FOX, (K. C. So. R'y).....Depot Ticket Agent, 2nd and Wyandotte Streets

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R. B. WALKER, (K. C. So. R'y).....Ticket Agent

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Texarkana Commercial Club, Texarkana, Tex., J. F. Black, Secretary.

Board of Trade, Shreveport, La.

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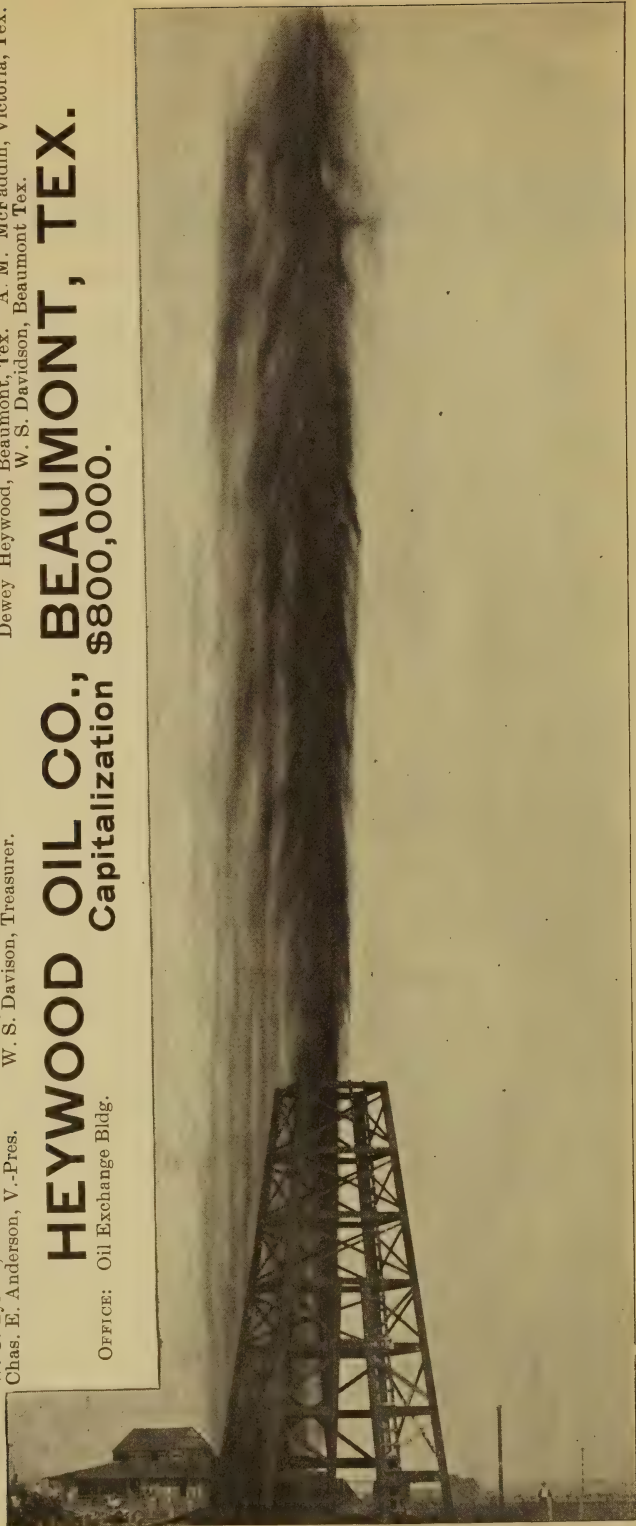
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Capitalization \$800,000.

OFFICE: Oil Exchange Bldg.



HEYWOOD GUSHER NO. 2.

Height of flow, 212.7 feet.

Capacity 70,000 barrels per day.

Beaumont, Texas.

Brought in May 25, 1901

The City Investment Co.

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KANSAS CITY, MO.

Deals in Real Estate, Farm Property,
Mortgages, Bonds and Stocks. Large
list of Farm, Fruit and Timber
Lands for sale along the line of the

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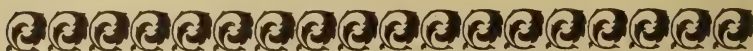
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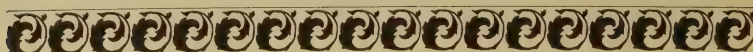
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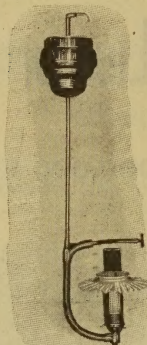
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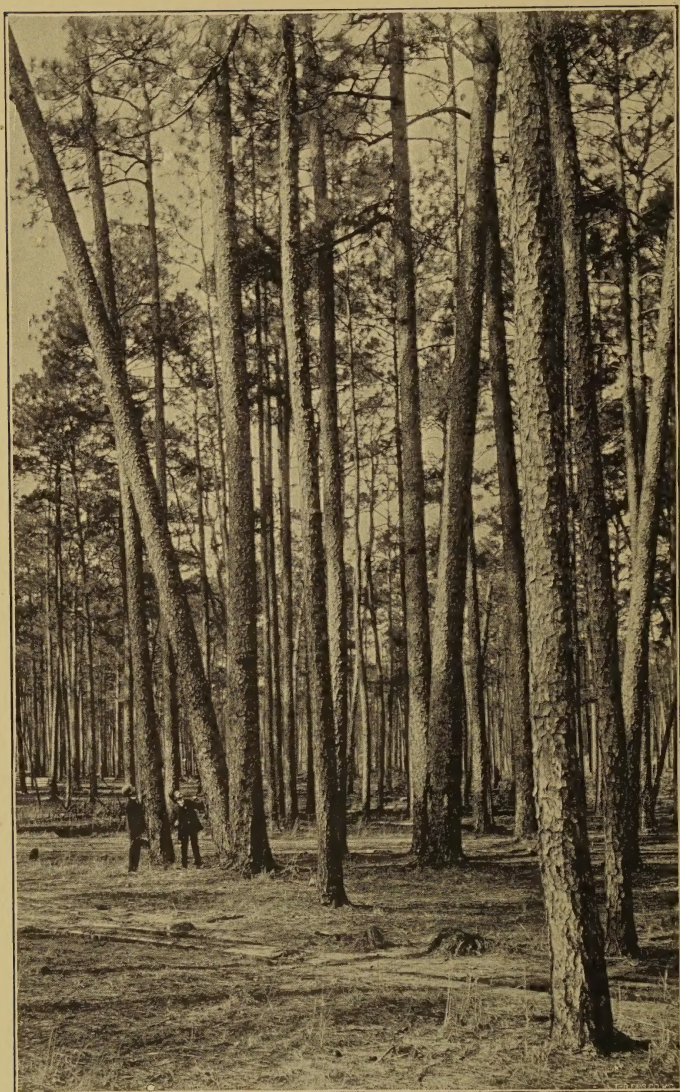
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